

Message Text

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ACTION ORM-03

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 IO-14 ISO-00 SR-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07

H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01

SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 DPW-01 AID-20 DRC-01 /130 W

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R 200935Z DEC 73

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3060

INFO AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

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FOR S/R: ORM

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SREF, CB, VS

SUBJ: KHMER REFUGEES IN SOUTH VIETNAM

1. DURING CONVERSATION TODAY DEPUTY UNHCR MACE INFORMED MISOFF THAT RKG AMBASSADOR SO SATTI APPROACHED UNHCR RECENTLY TO REQUEST FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR REPATRIATION OF KHMER REFUGEES PRESENTLY IN SOUTH VIETNAM. MOREOVER, AMBASSADOR SO SATTI EXPRESSED HOPE THAT UNHCR WOULD TAKE LEAD IN REESTABLISHMENT OF THESE REFUGEES IN KHMER REPUBLIC. ACCORDING SO SATTI, RKG INTENDS RESETTLE THESE REFUGEES IN AREAS OTHER THAN THEIR HABITUAL PLACES OF RESIDENCE. PROSPECTIVE RESETTLEMENT AREAS ARE KOMPONG SOM AND BATTAMBANG ON SOUTH COAST. ESTIMATED COST OF THIS RESETTLEMENT OPERATION IS \$1.5 MILLION.

2. ACCORDING MACE, UNHCR INCLINED TO BELIEVE THAT OWING UNSETTLED CONDITIONS IN KHMER REPUBLIC AND IMPOSSIBILITY REPATRIATE REFUGEES TO THEIR HABITUAL PLACES OF RESIDENCE, REPATRIATION AT THIS TIME NOT PROPITIOUS. MISS OFF INFORMED MACE THAT WE TOO HAVE BEEN CONCERNED ABOUT PREMATURE

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REPATRIATION THIS GROUP AND INDICATED DESIRABILITY FOR UNHCR

TO EXERCISE PRUDENCE AND ENSURE THAT ANY ARRANGEMENTS FOR REPATRIATION BE WELL COORDINATED WITH ALL PARTIES CONCERNED.

3. RESPECT RELIEF ASSISTANCE TO THESE REFUGEES IN SOUTH VIETNAM, MACE REPORTED THAT UNHCR HAS ADVANCED \$100,000 FROM UN-EARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVED FROM SCANDINAVIAN COUNTRIES. MACE CITED LIKELIHOOD THAT UNHCR WOULD BE OBLIGED MAKE AVAILABLE ADDITIONAL FUNDS TO ASSIST THIS GROUP IN SOUTH VIETNAM AND INQUIRED WHETHER USG PREPARED MAKE AVAILABLE \$100,000 FOR THIS PURPOSE. ON BASIS DEPARTMENT'S ADVICE, MISSION HAD PREVIOUSLY INFORMED UNHCR THAT WE MAY BE ABLE PROVIDE MAXIMUM \$100,000 FOR THIS PURPOSE DEPENDING REACTIONS OTHER DONORS.

4. PLEASE ADVISE. BASSIN

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Message Attributes

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